



Associated Colleges of Illinois

Dominican University President Donna Carroll Announces Retirement After Nearly 30 Years

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After almost three decades of visionary leadership, [Dominican University](#) President Donna M. Carroll has announced her retirement, effective June 2021, according to a university news release. The university is conducting a presidential search.

Appointed as Dominican's first lay president in 1994, Carroll was one of the youngest -- and one of few women -- college presidents in the country. She currently is one of the longest-serving university presidents in the state of Illinois.

Three years after her appointment, she guided the university through a successful name change -- from Rosary College to Dominican University, recognizing the institution's growth while honoring its founding Dominican Order.

Carroll has led the university during a period of extraordinary and sustained growth. During her tenure, the number of full-time faculty has doubled, new schools and programs have been established and the university's operating budget has increased four-fold. She has managed three campaigns that raised more than \$165 million in support for student aid, programs and facilities, including five endowed chairs, three new buildings, and countless scholarships in addition to significant federal grant support. It was during Carroll's tenure that the university purchased a second campus and, most recently, dedicated a new Learning Commons, an area encompassing integrated student services, study space and the WeatherTech Innovation Lab.



President Donna M. Carroll was appointed president in 1994.